

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated May 17, 2005, are respectfully requested in view of this amendment. By this amendment, claims 1-4 have been amended, new claims 5-7 have been added and paragraph [0082] of the specification has been amended. Claims 1-7 are pending in this application.

The change to paragraph [0082] changes "relay lens 16" to "superimposing lens 16".

The claims have been amended to define the lens, formerly defined as "a focusing lens for focusing the light beam" as, "a lens for emitting the light beam". The "primary means of adjustment for adjusting" is now defined as a "primary means for adjusting" and references "by reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light". Support is found in the specification, including at paragraph [0050] (Summary), which describes,

"... means of separating and synthesizing for separating the three primary colors of the light for which color balance has been adjusted by the primary means of adjustment, for directing light of the three primary colors to the three spatial modulating elements ..."

New dependent claims 5-7 define the use of a filter (claims 5 and 6). New independent claim 7 defines emitting white light, adjusting the color balance by reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light, separating the light into the three primary colors, modulating and synthesizing the colors, and projecting the synthesized light.

Support is found in the specification, including at paragraphs [0050], [0057], [0062], [0085] and [0125] - [0127].

Therefore the claims present an apparatus in which an adjustment reduces the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Kobayashi, US Patent No. 6,057,894 ("Kobayashi"). This rejection, as applied to the amended claims, is respectfully traversed. Kobayashi is cited as using a UV-IR cut filter, which is compared with applicant's primary means of adjustment.

Applicant's claim 1 recites, "... a white light source ... three spatial light modulating elements for modulating three primary colors, respectively ... a lens ... a primary means for adjusting the color balance of the white light ... *by reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light* (emphasis added) .. means of separating and synthesizing ... the ... primary colors of light ... means for adjustment ... directing light of the three primary colors ... and ... synthesizing light of the three primary colors modulated with the three spatial light modulating elements ... and ... projecting light synthesized with the means of separating and synthesizing."

Kobayashi fails to show or suggest reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light. Instead, Kobayashi uses a UV-IR cut filter, which is cited as the primary means of claim 1.

Similarly, claim 7 defines, "... adjusting the color balance of the white light by reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of ... white light ... separating the ... adjusted white light into the three primary colors ... modulating the three primary colors ... synthesizing the modulated three primary colors ... and projecting the synthesized light." Kobayashi fails to show or suggest this combination.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §103

Claims 2 and 4 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Kobayashi, taken in view of Kanaya, US Patent No. 6,466,375. Kanaya was cited as disclosing an image

display which includes a blocking plate for blocking all wavelengths of white light. Kanaya was combined with Kobayashi to show the use of a secondary means for adjusting. Again, independent claim 1, from which claims 2 and 4 depend, define a primary means for adjusting the color balance of the white light by reducing the level of any of the red, green or blue light components of the white light. Both Kobayashi and Kanaya fail to show or suggest this combination. For this reason, it would not have been obvious to modify Kobayashi. Specifically, using a barrier member for blocking all light does not achieve a modulation of the light such that the light can be subsequently projected.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

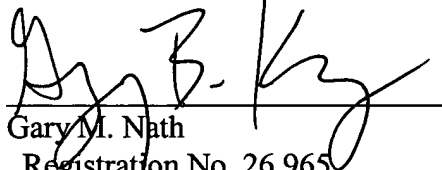
In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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